



## VETERANS SERVICES DIVISION

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### Fact Sheet

### Traumatic Brain Injury and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

#### California Department of Veterans Affairs

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Customer Call Center  
1.800.952.5626  
Website: [www.cdva.ca.gov](http://www.cdva.ca.gov)

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) have been called the signature wounds of the Iraqi and Afghanistan conflict. They have been seen in other conflicts, but given the new more powerful explosives and excellent medical care our troops are receiving in the field, the blasts are more powerful and more troops are surviving blasts that would have killed soldiers in other conflicts. These two changes are creating a situation where the concussion created by intense pressurization and depressurization from the blasts are injuring soldiers in a different way than what was experienced in earlier wars. PTSD has always been a problem, but is now exacerbated because of repeated tours of duty for many troops.

The aforementioned events have created a situation where TBI and PTSD are taking their toll on you, our returning troops, and in many cases, their families as well. The Veterans Administration (VA), at the federal and state levels, is focusing on an environment where early detection and early intervention support is practiced to make your transition to civilian life as easy and productive as possible for both you and your families.

To this end all OID/OEF veterans are encouraged to take advantage of the Veterans Administration Health Care System. The VA is offering you five years of VA healthcare regardless of your financial or health status. You can contact the Veterans Administration directly by calling 1-800-827-1000 or their web-site at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) to find the nearest VA Healthcare facility. In addition you can contact our office at the State Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-800-952-5626 or visit our web-site at [www.cdva.ca.gov/vetservice](http://www.cdva.ca.gov/vetservice).

For compensation claims for TBI and PTSD visit your County Veterans Service Office at <http://www.cacvso.org/ContentPage.asp?ContentID=71>.

Contact the VA OEF/OIF Coordinator at your local VA hospital to assist you in treatment and or the VETCENTER for PTSD and TBI assistance. See attached documents for listings and facilities.

Thank you for serving our country. Call us or email us anytime. We are committed to helping you meet your needs when you are discharged from the service. We are here to help and we are honored to do so.